

RURAL DISTRICT OF SHEPTON MALLET



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

*Including the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector*

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1964**



SHEPTON MALLET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

---

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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(Including the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector)

For the year ending

31st December 1964

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Highfield House,  
Park Road,  
Shepton Mallet,  
Somerset.





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SHEPTON MALLETT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS - 1964

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Deryck E. Clare, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT

T. W. Foster.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER

J. J. Lawrence, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J. Board,  
Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

D. R. Burton, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J. Board,  
Dip. Meat and Other Foods.

A. C. Bould, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.P.H.I.E. Board, Dip. Meat and Other  
Foods. (to 31st August 1964).

CLERICAL ASSISTANT

J. M. Duke.

PART-TIME RODENT OPERATIVE

W. J. Palmer.

Duties of Public Health Inspectors Include :-

Sanitary and Housing Administration, Meat and Food Inspection, Control of Refuse Collection and Disposal, Salvage, Council House Administration (Letting and Control of Tenancies), and Rodent Control.

Committees Dealing with Public Health matters

Public Health Committee  
Housing Committee







SHEPTON MALLET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Tel: Shepton Mallet 2237  
Wells (Residence) 2643

Area Health Office,  
U. D. C. Offices,  
Market Square,  
Shepton Mallet.

To: The Chairman and Councillors of Shepton Mallet Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the District for 1964, compiled in accordance with the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and Ministry of Health Circular 1/65 of 11th January 1965.

It will be seen that at the request of the Ministry this year, information is included in the Report of the natural fluoride content of the various water supplies for the Rural District Council wherever possible, showing that it is not up to the desired concentration of 1 part per million. In common with many other local authorities in the County, this Council voted during 1964 in favour of fluoridation, but unfortunately the County Council itself turned it down.

With regard to the vital statistics it will be seen that the population continued to rise steadily and live births exceeded deaths. The birth rate was less than in the previous year but so was the death rate, and there was no Neo-Natal, Early Neo-Natal or Maternal mortality.

On the environmental side, progress was made with schemes for the provision of mains water to outlying areas; with regard to sewerage schemes, one was completed at the village of Holcombe, whilst the sewerage of Pilton was commenced. With the help of the W.V.S., a much needed Meals on Wheels Scheme was inaugurated in the Batcombe - Evercreech area and proved a success.

As with other rural districts, Brucellosis in dairy herds remained a problem in 1964, and close co-operation was required with the County Health Department to minimise this hazard to the public which will remain a hazard whilst raw milk is consumed or until a Brucellosis Eradication Scheme is put through.

I am particularly grateful to the Senior and Deputy Public Health Inspectors for their zeal and support at all times, and to the other Officers of the Council and Council Members for their kind co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. CLARE  
Medical Officer of Health.



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# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District (in acres)	.. 47,167
Estimated Population (mid-year 1964)	.. 10,590
Number of Inhabited Houses	.. 3,342
Rateable Value (at 31.12.64)	.. £271,587
Product of a Penny Rate (Estimated 1964/65)	.. £1,056

## MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

(with comparative figures for Somerset and England and Wales where available)

### B I R T H S

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Shepton Mallet R.D.C</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Legitimate	65	70	135			8,625	(Provisional)
Illegitimate	4	5	9			529	
Totals	69	75	144			9,154	874,143

Rate per 1,000 population	13.6	14.98	16.86	18.4
(Area births comparability factor 1.10)			(corrected)	

### ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

(per cent of total live births)	6.25	5.78
---------------------------------	------	------

### STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	-	2	2		
Illegitimate	-	1	1		
Totals	-	3	3	141	14,545

Rate per 1,000 live and still births	20.4	15.17	16.4
--------------------------------------	------	-------	------

### TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

69	78	147	9,295	888,693
----	----	-----	-------	---------

### D E A T H S

#### TOTAL DEATHS

(all ages)	62	49	111	6,629	534,737
Rate per 1,000 population	10.5	9.33	10.62	11.3	
Area deaths comparability factor			(corrected)		
	0.98)				

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>S.M.R.D.C.</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u> (Provisional,
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u> (under 1 year)							
Legitimate	1	-	1			108	
Illegitimate	1	-	1			11	
Totals	2	-	2			119	17,445
<u>(under four weeks)</u>							
Legitimate	-	-	-				
Illegitimate	-	-	-				
Totals	-	-	-			82	12,106
<u>(under one week)</u>							
Legitimate	-	-	-				
Illegitimate	-	-	-				
Totals	-	-	-			68	
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>							
Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ... ..				13.9		13.00	20.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births				7.4		12.52	
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births				111.2		20.79	
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES</u>							
(deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...				-		8.96	13.8
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES</u>							
(deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) ... ..				-		7.43	
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>							
(Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still births) ... ..				20.4		22.49	28.2
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY (Including abortion)</u>							
Number of deaths ... ..				-		1	226
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..				-		0.11	0.25



CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1964  
(as given by the Registrar-General)

Cause of death	Sex	Total all ages	Under four weeks	4 wks and under 1 yr.	Age in years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & up wd.
Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Diabetes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	6
Coronary Disease, Angina	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	6
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Other Heart Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Other Circulatory Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bronchitis	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Malformations	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill- Defined Diseases	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Suicide	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total all causes	M	62	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	6	15	17	21
	F	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	4	10	28



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES - NOTIFICATIONS

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Whooping Cough...	...	...	27
Measles	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	2
Scarlatina	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	5
Food Poisoning...	...	...	4

## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

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(The figures are in general too small for much importance to be attached to them but certain broad statements can be made).

### Population

The Registrar-General again estimates an increase of 40 over the mid-year population for the previous year, and births exceeded deaths by 33.

### Births

Live Births - totalled 33 less than in 1963, with a corresponding drop in the Recorded and Corrected Birth Rates. There was 1 more illegitimate birth, but the Illegitimate Live Birth Rate differed little from that of the County.

Still Births - totalled 1 more than in the previous year and were raised above the County and National figures.

### Deaths

Deaths at All Ages - fell to 28 less than in the preceding year, probably due to improved winter weather conditions. Both the Recorded and Corrected Death Rates are better than those of Somerset or England and Wales.

Infant Deaths - fell again, with 1 less than in 1963. There was no Neo-Natal and Early Neo-Natal mortality and the Infant Mortality and Peri-Natal Mortality Rates compare favourably with those of the County and England and Wales.

Maternal Deaths - there were again no deaths in women from the District as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

### Causes of Death in 1964

Cardio-Vascular Diseases - accounted for the greater number of deaths again (52) but totalled 26 less than in the previous year. Of these, Coronary and Other Heart Diseases caused 28 deaths, followed by Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System with 16.



Cancer Deaths - (26) totalled 4 more than in 1963, and as regards site, lung cancer led with 6 deaths followed by stomach with 4. Once again, all the lung cancer deaths occurred in males and in the later age groups.

Respiratory Disease Deaths - (12) fell to 4 less than in 1963, and of these Chronic Bronchitis accounted for half.

Accidents - deaths from these fell again, to 3, and motor vehicle accidents accounted for only one.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

There is little of note amongst the cases of notifiable diseases reported apart from the food poisoning notification reported on in more detail below.

#### ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

Two adults and two children from the same family succumbed to acute food poisoning a few hours after arrival at a farm/guesthouse in the District from London.

They were admitted to a Hospital in Bath but were soon able to be discharged and upon investigation it was found highly probable that the their food poisoning was due to the consumption of their own home cooked food that they ate on the journey.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Sec.47) & AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

No cases occurred requiring action under the provisions of these Acts, but elderly persons living in borderline conditions in the District were visited from time to time.

#### MILK & DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959, SECTION 20

Two instances occurred during the year where *Brucella abortus* was found in the milk from Producer/Retailers on routine sampling by County Health Staff, and Biological analysis at Bristol Public Health Laboratory.

These farms were visited immediately and in the first case the application of a formal Heat Treatment Order on the milk was necessary from 13th May to 1st June until the herd was cleared.

In the second case, the farmer agreed to give up the small amount of local milk retailing from the infected herd and to send the bulk supply to a local factory for heat treatment so that a formal Heat Treatment Order was not required.



## VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of children in the District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31st December 1964

Children born in the years:-							Total
1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1955/9	1950/4	
24	88	10	8	1	15	5	151

- (2) Reinforcing Injections Children receiving reinforcing injections in the year ended 31st December 1964

-	-	1	1	4	151	85	242
---	---	---	---	---	-----	----	-----

### TETANUS IMMUNISATION

- (1) Primary Courses Number of children in the District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31st December 1964

24	88	10	8	1	15	5	151
----	----	----	---	---	----	---	-----

- (2) Reinforcing Injections Children receiving reinforcing injections in the year ended 31st December 1964

-	-	1	1	4	151	86	243
---	---	---	---	---	-----	----	-----

### WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children in the District who completed a primary course of Pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the year ended 31st December 1964

22	81	9	8	1	10	1	132
----	----	---	---	---	----	---	-----

### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

- (1) Primary Course Number of persons in the District who received a course of primary vaccination (two injections of Salk vaccine, three injections of quadruple vaccine or three doses of Oral vaccine) during the year ended 31st December 1964

Children born 1964	Children born 1963	Children born 1962	Children born 1943-61	Young persons born 1933-42	Persons under 40 years of age and priority Groups
Salk Oral	Salk Oral	Salk Oral	Salk Oral	Salk Oral	Salk Oral
1 7	3 61	1 29	- 43	- 8	- 3



(2) Reinforcements, 1964

Number of persons (all groups) who received a third Salk Injection or fourth injection of quadruple vaccine.	Number of children of 5 years, but under 12 years, who received a fourth Salk injection or fifth injection of quadruple vaccine	Number of persons (all groups) who received a re- inforcing dose of Oral vaccine following two Salk injections.	Number of children of 5 years, but under 12 years, who received a dose of Oral vaccine after three Salk injections or three Oral doses or two Salk inject- ions, plus two Oral doses.
-	-	4	111

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the District in year 1964

0-3 mths	4-6 mths	7-9 mths	10-12 mths	1 year	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 or over
P	P	P	P	P	P	-	R
1	3	-	4	38	4	-	6

P - Primary vaccination

R - Re-vaccination

# REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## (A) WATER SUPPLIES

### (1) Public Main Supplies

(a) General The Council referred the question of the unsatisfactory service to the Dalleston area (Emborough) to the Bristol Waterworks Company, but the Company decided to await their long-term scheme for improving the supply to this area which might be carried out in the next two years. Otherwise the public supplies of water in the District were adequate. Some complaints were received of discoloured water and these were referred to the Bristol Waterworks Company. All raw water is chlorinated before being passed into the mains.

### (b) Sampling

#### (i) Chlorinated Water

Number of samples taken	...	296
Satisfactory	...	286
Unsatisfactory	...	10

(Appropriate action was taken by the Bristol Waterworks Company in respect of the 10 unsatisfactory samples).

#### (ii) Untreated Water

121 samples of raw water were examined, some of which showed evidence of contamination, but not to the extent that the subsequent treatment by chlorination proved inoperative.

#### (iii) Chemical Analysis

64 samples were taken for chemical analysis and all proved satisfactory. The water however, is very hard, but this hardness is mainly temporary - due to the presence of bicarbonates of lime and magnesium which are precipitated when the water is heated.

(c) Lead Solvency The water supplies of the District are not known to have any dissolving effect on lead.

(d) Extensions to Public Mains There were no extensions during the year. Although no works were commenced on the Brook House Inn (Ditchheat) and Oakhill (Ashwick) main extensions, there was administrative progress and at the end of the year it was understood that the scheme for the Brook House area was to commence during the first quarter of 1965. In regard to the Oakhill scheme, the financial arrangements had been finalised by the end of the year so that it was anticipated that this scheme also would be carried out in 1965.



NATURAL FLUORIDE CONTENT OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES IN THE  
SHEPTON MALLET RURAL DISTRICT

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Stoke Bottom (three sources)	Nil 0.12
Three Ashes	0.10 - 0.25
West Bradley	0.41 - 0.54
Farncombe	0.14
Evercreech (three sources)	0.14
Milton Clevedon	0.20
Water ex Langport R.D.C.	0.24
Fluoride being expressed as fluorine in parts per million.	

Figures for the Gurney Slade source are not yet available.





## (2) Private Main Supplies

The private main supply to parts of Oakhill again gave concern, and the laying of the new public main referred to above is awaited. The laying of this new public main will see the last of the major private main supplies in the District, and being so, no samples were taken from private mains during the year.

## (3) Individual Private Supplies

198 houses in the District (5.9%) are still supplied with water from individual wells or springs, a slight decrease on last year. 178 of these houses have the water laid on internally, only 20 houses now rely on an external well or spring. In most cases these houses with individual private supplies are in out-lying areas where main supplies are not available.

Samples were taken from some of these private supplies, sampling being mainly concentrated on houses with an external well or spring.

These samples gave the following results:-

Number of samples taken	...	14
Satisfactory	...	7
Unsatisfactory	...	7

Action was taken as far as possible with regard to the unsatisfactory supplies, and two of the houses were connected to the public mains.

## (4) Sources of Supply to Houses in the District

Table A on page 24 shows the nature of the supply to the houses in each Parish. It will be seen that of 3,342 houses in the District, 3,069 (91.8%) have a piped supply of water, either from a public main or a private main. 178 (5.3%) have **spring or well** water laid on internally, and 20 (0.6%) of the houses have to rely on an outside well or spring. The majority of these 20 houses with an outside well or spring are unfit, and will be dealt with under Slum Clearance Procedure.

The number of houses relying on a standpipe supply was reduced by 19, the number having an internal supply of water from a well or spring was reduced by 4, and the number relying on an outside well or spring was reduced by 2.

Table B on page 25 (Sanitary Facilities of Houses) shows that 2,958 houses in the District (88.5%) obtain their water supply direct from the public mains and 111 (3.3%) from private mains).

(NOTE: any apparent discrepancy in the figures given is due to houses being closed by Slum Clearance Procedure).



## (B) SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

### (1) Sewerage Schemes

- (a) Evercreech Early in the year, the Council's Consulting Engineers produced an outline scheme for sewerage Stoney Stratton and for additional foul and surface water sewers in Evercreech Village at an estimated cost of £107,070, and this scheme was forwarded to the Ministry. At the end of the year, the Council decided to enlarge the scheme slightly to allow for certain additional lengths of sewer to replace sewers found to be unsatisfactory as a result of rat infestation.
- (b) Holcombe This sewerage scheme was virtually completed during the year.
- (c) Reconstruction of Oakhill Sewage Disposal Works At the end of the year this scheme was nearing completion.
- (d) Pilton This scheme was commenced in May 1964 and good progress was made during the year.
- (e) Ditchet During the early part of the year there were delays in finalising the scheme due to negotiations but in May the Ministry were able to authorise Tenders being sought. A Tender of £48,122 was accepted, and on this basis, the total cost of the scheme was estimated at £58,500. At the end of the year it was anticipated that work would commence early in 1965.
- (f) Cranmore Little progress was made on the preparation of this scheme during the year. There were considerable delays in obtaining a site for the works at East Cranmore, and at the end of the year such a site was still not obtained.
- (g) Generally Following a joint report of the Medical Officer of Health and myself on the need for sewerage Binegar, the Council decided to adjourn further consideration of any additional sewerage schemes for one year. The Council also decided that they could not consider the sewerage of the small hamlet of East End, Stoke St. Michael, at present.

### (2) Drainage of Existing Houses

Table B on Page 25 shows the number of houses in the District drained to a public sewer at the end of 1964 as 1,333 (39.8%) an increase of 142 over the previous year. 1,562 houses (46.7%) are drained to cess-pits or septic tanks and 447 houses (10.3%) have no drainage or have unsatisfactory drainage (48 less than in 1963).



### (C) CLOSETS AND OTHER SANITARY FACILITIES

Table B on page 25 shows that 2,880 houses in the District (86.2%) have a water closet, an increase of 92 on last year. Ten houses (0.29%) have shared closets, 420 houses (12.6%) have a pail or chemical closet (46 less than last year) and 32 houses (0.9%) have a privy closet (2 less than last year). The Table also shows that 153 houses in the District (4.6%) have no sink (33 less than last year) and 933 (27.9%) have no bath (66 less than last year).

The general improvement under this heading is mainly due to three factors - Slum Clearance, Improvement Grants and voluntary efforts by owners.

### (D) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL / SALVAGE

- (1) Refuse Collection The Council's Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft 18 cub.yard Refuse Lorry completed its second year of service. The crew of driver and two loaders continued to give satisfactory service. The fortnightly collection for each Parish continued.
- (2) Disposal The Tip at Moorwood, Ashwick continued in operation and was kept in a reasonably satisfactory condition by the refuse lorry crew and part-time tip attendant.
- (3) Salvage It was not possible to resume collection of waste paper during the year. 11 tons. 16 cwts. of scrap metal was despatched to the Dealers during the year, and the Council received £42. 2. 3d (compared to £43. 6. 6d for the previous year).

### (E) GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

- (1) Smoke Abatement No action was taken during the year.
- (2) Caravans and Camping Sites During the year one licence for a site for an individual caravan was renewed, and three new licences were issued in respect of sites for individual caravans. In all cases the period of the licence is that prescribed by the Local Planning Authority, in the planning consent. At the end of the year, sixteen licences were in force for sites for individual caravans and two licences were in force for a caravan camp of twenty-six caravans.
- (3) Rag Flock There are no premises in the District in which rag flock is manufactured or sold.



- (4) Agricultural (Health, etc) Act, 1956 No inspections were carried out in 1964.
- (5) Rats and Mice Fifty-nine complaints were received of rats in dwelling houses, and five complaints were received of rats infesting other premises. Advice was given in respect of four cases of mice infestation. The Council's Part-time Rodent Operator continued routine inspection of houses for rats and the Council's sewers at Croscombe, Doultling, Evercreech, Gurney Slade, Oakhill, Stoke St. Michael and Stratton-on-the-Fosse, were tested and treated where necessary. It was again necessary to treat the stream at Croscombe. Ten business premises and 102 houses were treated for the destruction of rats and 91 treatments of the Council's sewage works and refuse tip were also carried out.
- (6) Insect Pests Two wasps nests were destroyed and one house was treated for flea infestation.
- (7) Factories Table H on Page 30 shows the position with regard to Factories. At the end of the year there were thirty-eight Outworkers on the Council list, all employed in the Gloving Industry.
- (8) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964 By the date laid down for registration of premises under the Act, (31/7/64) only 16 out of some 40/50 possible premises had registered. The attention of occupiers of premises which had not registered was drawn to the requirements of the Act, with improved results. At the end of the year, 40 premises had been registered with the Council (9 offices, 22 shops, 8 catering establishments, and 1 fuel storage depot). Four inspections were carried out.
- (9) Swill Plants The powers with respect to the Licensing of Swill Plants under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957, were delegated to the Council in 1958 by the S.C.C. One new licence was granted during the year making a total of two licences in force.
- (10) Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963 Four licences were issued during the year on the advice of the Council's Consultant Veterinary Officers.
- (11) Atmospheric Pollution In co-operation with H.M. Alkali Inspector, investigations were carried out at various Quarries emitting dust. The attention of the Owners was drawn to the necessary reduction of dust emission.
- (12) Visits During the year a total of 2,371 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors.



(13) Complaints During the year 70 complaints were received, made up as follows:-

General Housing Matters	...	3
Drainage and Sewage Disposal.		25
Rats and Mice	...	32
Insect Pests	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	6

(14) Notices Fifteen Informal Notices were served during the year, and three Statutory Notices.

#### (F) PRIVATE HOUSES

(1) Slum Clearance The total number of unfit houses was reduced by 12 during the year. The number of houses as ascertained by the Comprehensive Housing Survey in 1955 was 326 and by the end of 1964 (after 9 years progress) this number has been reduced to 62. Thus in nine years, 264 houses (81%) have been dealt with. It should be noted that 32 of the balance of 62 Unfit houses still to be dealt with are houses occupied by old people whom the Council have decided not to disturb unless they express a wish to be moved (and these houses are only dealt with when the tenancy comes to an end). Seven houses are void and not likely to be re-occupied. This leaves only 23 houses where action is still necessary.

(2) Improvement Grants "Discretionary Grants" are being used where more substantial schemes of re-construction are to be carried out, and the "Standard" Grant (which is a much more simple affair) is useful to people who only want a bathroom and internal W.C, without substantial alterations to the house. Four applications for a "Discretionary" Grant were approved during the year, and the average Grant was £370. Fourteen applications for "Standard" Grants were approved making a total of 18 Grants approved in all, compared to 40 in 1963. Apart from the number of Grants approved, numerous enquiries were received which did not materialise into applications. Nevertheless, almost all enquiries result in a complete survey of the house by the staff whether a formal application results or not. Table F on page 28 shows that schemes for the improvement of 44 houses were completed during the year, compared with 31 the previous year. Of this number, 19 were for Owner/Occupiers, and 25 for Tenanted houses.

(3) Private Houses Erected Twenty-eight houses were erected by private enterprise during the year, one more than in 1963.



- (4) Overcrowding No cases were discovered during the year.
- (5) Rent Act, 1957 No application for a certificate of disrepair was received during the year.

### (G) COUNCIL HOUSES

- (1) Applications for Houses At the end of the year there were 173 applications on the Council's Housing List, an increase of 41 during the year. Of this total only 76 cases were considered to have established a housing need, and these applications consisted of 29 for houses and 47 for Old Peoples' Bungalows. During the year 21 houses were re-let when becoming vacant, and 6 houses were erected and occupied. Nineteen bungalows were erected and occupied during the year, and 2 were re-let on becoming vacant. Details of applications, etc, are given in Table E (Council Houses) on page 27
- (2) Building Programme The Council's Building programme for 1964, after modifications, was as follows:-

Ditcheat	...	4 bungalows
Kingscombe (Gurney Slade)		5 houses, 4 bungalows
Batcombe	...	2 bungalows
Cranmore	...	2 bungalows
Holcombe	...	19 Bungalows and Warden's accommodation (Community Scheme)
Pilton	...	4 bungalows
Pylle	...	2 bungalows
Stratton-on-the-Fosse.		6 houses, 2 bungalows

The following was the position at the end of 1964:-

Ditcheat	...	No site yet found
Kingscombe (Gurney Slade)		Work in progress
Batcombe	...	Deferred for time being
Cranmore	...	These bungalows are proposed on the site of the Estate Sewage Works when West Cranmore is sewered and therefore did not materialise during the year
Holcombe Scheme	...	Work in progress
Pilton	...	Tenders being sought
Pylle	...	Increased from two bungalows to three bungalows and planning consent to site layout being sought
Stratton-on-the-Fosse.		Work in progress

The 1965 Building Programme was decided as follows:-

Lydford . . . . . 2 houses.

It was also agreed that the bungalow scheme at Batcombe proceed in 1965.

- (3) Garages At Cranmore, the scheme for hard standings was carried out. The Council decided to proceed with the following schemes :-

Evercreech (Maesdown Estate)	...	11 garages
Doulting	...	2 garages and hard standings
Croscombe (Honeymead)	...	4 garages
Stoke St. Michael (Moonshill Estate)		Various hard standings and parking spaces
Batcombe	...	4 garages

At the end of the year planning approval to these schemes had been received.

#### (H) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (1) Milk Only the registration of Dairies and Distributors is now carried out by the Council and of these premises three are registered. All sampling of milk is carried out by the County Council.
- (2) Ice-Cream No new premises were registered during the year for the sale of ice-cream. All the ice-cream sold in the District is pre-packed and from reputable firms outside the District. There are no premises in the District where ice-cream is manufactured.
- (3) Food Shop Bye-laws Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into operation in the Rural District in July 1950. Informal action was taken in some cases and this achieved the necessary results.
- (4) Food Premises Generally Table J (Analysis of Food Premises) on page 32 shows the number of Food Premises in the District.
- (5) Slaughterhouses The two private Slaughterhouses, at Pylle and Evercreech continued in use during the year. Killing figures at the two Slaughterhouses were as follows:-

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pylle	550	3,679	1,412	1,103	6,744
Evercreech	48	-	132	30	210



- (6) Slaughtermen Twelve slaughtermen were licensed by the Council under the Slaughter of Animals Acts. No fee is now payable.
- (7) Meat Inspection Overtime was again necessary for meat inspection duties, including overtime at Evercreech, where most of the killing is done outside normal office hours. Nevertheless, full inspection of meat was carried out at both Slaughterhouses, and Tables K and L on pages 33 and 34 show the amount of meat condemned for various reasons. As will be seen from Table L on page 34 few carcasses are now condemned for Tuberculosis and the majority of carcasses are condemned for less obvious reasons. Septicaemia, fever and the like, (which are considered much more dangerous from a food consumption point of view) are the major reasons for condemnation of carcasses. There were five cases of Cysticercus Bovis in cattle (the larval stage of the human tape worm). Carcasses affected with this disease must be placed in cold storage to kill the larvae and this measure is not popular with butchers. Assistance in meat inspection was again given to Street U.D.C, on occasions when their inspector was away.
- (8) Other Foods Condemned Fourteen items of food (20 lbs) were condemned by way of voluntary surrender. In most cases proprietors dispose of unsound food without asking for Condemnation Certificates.
- (9) Disposal of Condemned Food Meat is disposed of to approved fertilizer manufacturers and other foods are buried, when necessary, on the refuse tip.

#### (I) SWIMMING BATHS

There is one swimming pool at Downside College, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, used only by scholars. Water is from the main, automatically chlorinated.

Deryck E. Clare.

John J. Lawrence.



TABLE A - ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLIED TO HOUSES EITHER OCCUPIED  
OR CAPABLE OF BEING OCCUPIED

Parish	Number of houses		Number having piped water supply into or onto houses		Number of houses supplied by stand-pipe.		Number of houses with wells, springs, etc, laid on internally		Number of houses with external supply from well or spring.	
	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964	1963	1964
Ashwick	337	338	321	324	11	9	4	4	1	1
Batcombe	138	139	98	99	1	1	39	39	-	-
Binegar	83	84	75	82	7	1	1	1	-	-
Bradley, West	84	84	84	84	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cranmore	142	142	117	117	11	11	13	13	1	1
Croscombe	196	206	177	192	12	8	6	6	1	-
Ditchheat	196	200	189	194	5	4	2	2	-	-
Doulting	188	188	167	168	13	12	5	5	3	3
Downhead	34	34	24	24	2	2	8	8	-	-
Emborough	45	46	43	44	-	-	2	2	-	-
Evercreech	493	507	464	478	7	7	22	22	-	-
Holcombe	207	213	200	209	6	3	1	1	-	-
Lamyat	46	46	37	37	-	-	7	7	2	2
Lydford	122	123	113	114	1	1	7	7	1	1
Milton Clevedon	32	32	24	24	-	-	8	8	-	-
Pennard, East	120	122	97	101	-	-	16	15	7	6
Pilton	263	268	244	249	3	3	16	16	-	-
Pylle	53	53	45	48	-	-	7	4	1	1
Stoke St. Michael	232	233	219	220	6	5	5	6	2	2
Stratton-on-the-Fosse	287	284	262	261	9	8	13	12	3	3
Total	3298	3342	3000	3069	94	75	182	178	22	20



TABLE B - SANITARY FACILITIES OF HOUSES

Total houses in District (but not including void houses controlled by Undertakings or Closing Orders).	1963		1964	
	3,298		3,342	
(1) <u>Water Supply</u>				
(a) <u>Internal supply</u>				
Houses with Public main water	2775	84.14%	2910	87.08%
Houses with Private main water	170	5.16%	111	3.32%
Houses with well, spring, etc, piped to house.	182	5.51%	178	5.33%
Total houses with Internal Supply	3127	94.81%	3199	95.73%
(b) <u>External supply (individual)</u>				
From Public main.	55	1.67%	48	1.44%
Wells, springs, etc.	22	.66%	20	.59%
Total houses with Individual external supply	77	2.33%	68	2.03%
(c) <u>No individual supply</u>				
From standpipe on public main.	91	2.76%	72	2.16%
From standpipe on private main.	3	.09%	3	.08%
Total houses with no individual supply	94	2.85%	75	2.24%
(2) <u>Closets</u>				
Houses with own water closet.	2788	84.54%	2880	86.18%
Houses with shared water closet.	10	.31%	10	.29%
Houses with own pail or chemical closet.	466	14.12%	420	12.57%
Houses with privy.	34	1.03%	32	.96%
(3) <u>Drainage</u>				
Houses drained to public sewer.	1191	36.11%	1333	39.89%
Houses drained to satisfactory cesspit or septic tank.	1612	48.88%	1562	46.74%
Houses with unsatisfactory or no drainage.	495	15.01%	447	13.37%
(4) <u>Other Sanitary Appliances</u>				
Houses with no sink.	186	5.64%	153	4.58%
Houses with no bath.	999	30.29%	933	27.92%



TABLE C - CONDITION OF HOUSES (FITNESS)

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	End of <u>1963</u>	End of <u>1964</u>
<u>Total Houses in District</u> (not including void houses controlled by Undertakings or Closing Orders).	3,298	3,342
Houses unfit and not repairable at reasonable expense.	74	62
Houses in need of major repairs.	125	118
Houses in need of minor repairs.	443	430
Houses with some Public Health defect(s). (Mainly dampness or drainage).	475	454
Pre-war private houses fit in all respects	1,361	1,407
Post-war private houses.	226	254
Council Houses.	592	617

TABLE D - UNFIT HOUSES

Total number of Houses Classified as Unfit as result of 1955 Survey - 326

Position at 31st December 1964

Houses void and under consideration	...	7
Houses occupied by old people who do not wish to be disturbed	...	32 (43 at end of 1963)
Other houses which will be subject to Demolition or Closing by Housing Act procedure	...	23 (30 at end of 1963)
<u>Total</u>		<u>62 (74 at end of 1963)</u>

The number of Unfit houses in the District has been reduced by 81% in the past 9 years (since Slum Clearance has been resumed).

TABLE E - COUNCIL HOUSES

Applications

(a) Total applications (including Old People)

On list at 1st January 1964	...	132
On list at 31st December 1964	...	173

(b) Of Total Number, reasonable cases only

		<u>Families</u>	<u>Old People</u>	<u>Total</u>
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On list at 1st January 1964	...	29	45	74
On list at 31st December 1964	...	29	47	76

New applications received	...	19	22	41
---------------------------	-----	----	----	----

In addition to the 47 Old People applying for bungalows at 31st December 1964, 14 Old People occupying Council Houses had applied for re-housing in a bungalow.

Dwellings Allocated

(a) Houses Number erected by Council and occupied during the year ... 6

Number of existing houses re-allocated 21..... Total 27

(b) Bungalows Number erected by the Council and occupied during the year 19

Number of existing bungalows re-allocated ... .. 2..... Total 21



TABLE F - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS - 1964

Discretionary Grants

1.	Number of applications approved	Applications	Houses
	(a) Up to 31.12.63 ...	162	171
	(b) During 1964 ...	4	4
	Total	166	175

2.	Schemes completed	Owner/ Occup- ier	Ten- ant- ed	Total	Previous Category of houses				
					Unfit	Maj or Rps	Min or Rps	Fit	Non- Domes- tic
	(a) Up to 31.12.63	67	79	146	35	36	57	14	4
	(b) During 1964	6	2	8	5	1	-	2	-
	Total	73	81	154	40	37	57	16	4

Standard Grants

1.	Number of applications approved	Applications
	(a) Up to 31.12.63 ...	94
	(b) During 1964 ...	14
	Total	108

2.	Schemes completed	Owner/ Occup- ier	Ten- ant- ed	Total	Previous Category of houses				
					Unfit	Maj- or Rps	Min- or Rps	Fit	Non Dom- estic
	(a) Up to 31.12.63	28	22	50	4	17	13	16	-
	(b) During 1964	13	23	36	1	17	11	7	-
	Total	41	45	86	5	34	24	23	-

TABLE G - VISITS

				<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
1.	Dwelling Houses - Public Health Acts	...	...	18	50
2.	Dwelling Houses - Housing Acts	...	...	254	216
3.	Improvement Grants	...	...	427	251
4.	Overcrowding	...	...	1	-
5.	Council Houses	...	...	822	406
6.	Water Supplies	...	...	101	50
7.	Drainage and Sewage Disposal	...	...	336	375
8.	Infectious Diseases	...	...	32	28
9.	Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	-	13
10.	Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	64	47
11.	Rats and Mice Suppression (By Rodent Operator).			1687	1548
12.	Rats, Mice and Other Vermin (By P.H. Inspectors)			41	55
13.	Stables and Piggeries	...	...	11	7
14.	Moveable Dwellings	...	...	54	38
15.	Factories and Workshops	...	...	23	1
16.	Meat Inspection and Slaughterhouse	...	...	429	411
17.	Other Food Inspection	...	...	3	8
18.	Butchers	...	...	3	14
19.	Ice-Cream Dealers	...	...	2	6
20.	Dairies and Milk Distributors	...	...	-	-
21.	Public Houses	...	...	9	18
22.	Canteens and Restaurants	...	...	8	-
23.	Other Food Premises	...	...	20	69
24.	Interviews	...	...	136	105
25.	Miscellaneous	...	...	132	203



TABLE H - FACTORIES

INSPECTION

	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sec.1,2,3,4, and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (Non-power Factories)	1	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 above in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Power Factories).	36	1	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-
	37	1	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Defects	No. of cases where defects found				No. of prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Insp	By H.M. Insp	
Lack of cleanliness. Sec.1. Overcrowding. Sec.2. Unsatisfactory temperature Sec.3. Ventilation. Sec.4. Ineffective drainage of floors. Sec.6. Sanitary Conveniences. Sec.7. (a) insufficient. (b) unsuitable or defective (c) not separate for sexes Other offences (not including Outworkers).			N I L		

TABLE I - PREMISES REGISTERED OR LICENSED AS  
FOOD PREMISES, Etc.

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ICE - CREAM

Number of Premises registered for manufacture	Nil
Number of Premises registered for Sale	46

PRESERVED FOODS, etc

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of sausages	5
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TABLE J - ANALYSIS OF FOOD PREMISES

Business Carried On	No.	Inspection	Notices Served	Contraventions Remedied
Butchers only	2	3	-	1
Butchers and Sausage Manufacturers	5	9	-	-
Public House only	24	19	-	-
Public House and Restaurant	4	2	1	1
Public House and Ice-Cream Dealer	5	-	-	-
Public House, Restaurant, and Ice-Cream Dealer	2	3	-	-
Grocers and Green-grocers	12	11	-	-
Grocers and Ice-Cream Dealers	30	39	1	1
Bakehouse only	2	10	-	-
Bakehouse and Ice-Cream Dealer	1	2	-	-
Confectioner only	2	-	-	-
Confectioner and Ice-Cream Dealer	4	-	-	-
Restaurant and Canteen	5	4	-	-
Restaurant and Ice-Cream Dealer	2	3	1	-
Ice-Cream Dealer only	1	-	-	-
Food Factory	4	-	-	-
Food Factory and Canteen	1	-	-	-
Wet and Fried Fish	2	1	-	-
Total	108	106	3	3

TABLE K - Meat and Offal Condemed 1964

1 Whole Carcases and Offal Condemed

Condemed for	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Fevered/Ill bled	-	-	40	2	16	58
Immaturity	-	-	3	-	-	3
Jaundice	-	-	3	-	-	3
Miscellaneous Conditions	-	1	2	4	11	18
Miscellaneous Diseases	-	-	-	1	1	2
Oedema/Emaciation	-	3	4	20	19	46
Pleurisy/Peritonitis	-	-	-	-	2	2
Pyæmia	-	-	16	5	21	42
Septicæmia	-	-	6	2	26	34
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	4	74	34	96	208

2 Part Carcases Condemed

Condemed for	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Abscess	-	-	3	-	26	29
Arthritis	-	-	-	-	18	18
Bruising	-	4	8	8	27	47
Miscellaneous Conditions	-	1	1	-	1	3
Oedema	-	1	-	2	-	3
Pleurisy/Peritonitis	2	4	1	-	5	12
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1	1
Totals	2	10	13	10	78	113

3 Offal Condemed

1,921 items of edible offal (Heads, Tongues, Lungs, Livers, Kidneys, etc) were condemed.

4 Total Animals Killed and Inspected

<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
410	188	3,679	1,544	1,133	6,954



TABLE L - MEAT INSPECTION 1964

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	416	182	3679	1544	1133	-
Number inspected	416	182	3679	1544	1133	-
<u>(A) Meat and Offal Condemned for Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses or organs condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.1	-
<u>(B) Meat &amp; Offal condemned for Cysticercus Bovis</u>						
Generalised Carcasses totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses or organs condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses affected with C.Bovis but condemned for other reason	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of animals affected with Cysticercus Bovis	.9	-	-	-	-	-
<u>(C) All Other Diseases</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	4	74	34	96	-
Part carcasses or organs condemned	89	78	283	193	563	-
Percentage of animals affected	21.4	45	9.7	14.7	58.1	-
<u>(D) Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned (in lbs), for</u>						
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	20	-
(b) Cysticercus Bovis	58	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Other Diseases	756	3149	4457	2391	10119	-

Total Weights Condemned

Tuberculosis..... 20 lbs.  
 Cysticercus Bovis..... 2 qrs. 2 lbs.  
 Other Diseases..... 9 tons. 6 cwts. 0 qrs. 20 lbs.







